

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A system for enforcing the standardization of data exchange for intellectual asset data objects, comprising:
- A/ a database having stored therein at least one intellectual asset protocol, wherein said at least one intellectual asset protocol defines at least one data exchange set of rules and formats for a type of intellectual asset data object; and
- at least one engine, wherein said at least one engine determines whether an intellectual asset data object of said type conforms to said intellectual asset protocol.
2. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said type of said intellectual asset data object is selected from the group consisting of a patent, a patent application, a trademark, a trademark application, a copyright, a trade secret, a license agreement, and a joint venture agreement.
3. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said database is accessible through the Internet.
4. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said database is relational.
5. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said database supports hypertext references.

6. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein objects within said protocol conform to at least one Extended Markup Language (XML) Document Type Definition (DTD).

7. (New) The system according to claim 6, wherein said DTD comprises a union of structured bibliographic data of said intellectual asset data objects.

AI 8. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said system further comprises an input for receiving intellectual asset data objects, a format of said input intellectual asset data objects being normalized for entry into said database.

9. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said system further comprises an output for presenting information from said intellectual asset data objects, said information from said input intellectual asset data objects being formatted according to a DTD.

10 (New) A system for enforcing the standardization of data exchange for intellectual asset data objects, comprising:

a database having stored therein at least one Markup Language Data Type Definition, wherein said at least one Data Type Definition defines at least one data exchange set of rules and formats for a type of intellectual asset data object;

at least one input engine, for receiving an intellectual asset data object and ensuring that it is normalized according to a Data Type Definition; and

at least one output engine, for presenting an intellectual asset data object according to an output Data Type Definition format.

11. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said Markup Language comprises SGML.

AI 12. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said Markup Language comprises XML.

13. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said type of said intellectual asset data object is selected from the group consisting of a patent, a patent application, a trademark, a trademark application, a copyright, a trade secret, a license agreement, and a joint venture agreement.

14. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said database is accessible through the Internet.

15. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said database is relational.

16. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said database supports hypertext references.

17. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said input Document Type Definition comprises a union of structured bibliographic data of said intellectual asset data objects.

18. (New) A data exchange method, comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of intellectual asset data objects;

normalizing the intellectual asset data objects according to a markup language document type definition;

storing the normalized intellectual asset data objects in a relational database;

receiving a query against the relational database; and

presenting intellectual asset data objects according to an output markup language document type definition.

19. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein the intellectual asset data objects are selected from the group consisting of a patent, a patent application, a trademark, a trademark application, a copyright, a trade secret, a license agreement, and a joint venture agreement.

20. (New) A computer readable media storing thereon instructions for controlling a computer to perform the method according to claim 18.
